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# EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

## **IN QUEST OF FARM SECURITY**

*by Secretary Wallace*

## **HELPING LOW-INCOME FARMERS**

*by County Agent H. G. Seyforth*

## **CONSULT YOUR COUNTY AGENT**

*by C. B. Smith*

## **AGENTS SPEED AID IN FLOOD CRISIS**

**Vol. 8 No. 3**

**March 1937**

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### EXTENSION SERVICE

C. W. WARBURTON, *Director*.

C. B. SMITH, *Assistant Director*.

## TOMORROW . . .

**LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**, we find several articles scheduled for April which seem worthy of the extension workers' attention.

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**IN THE LONG RUN.** What does extension work actually accomplish in a county over the years? This is the question County Agent Jesse Wood set himself to study by examining from every possible angle the 14 years of potato-improvement clubs in Martin County, Indiana. He unearthed some interesting facts.

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**BANG'S DISEASE.** Agents in dairy counties will welcome two stories on this current problem. The results of a 5-year demonstration in the control of Bang's disease and tuberculosis in Del Norte County, California, will be reported by Kenneth G. McKay, extension veterinarian, and County Agent H. R. Noble will describe an educational campaign which brought in 1,000 applications for the Bang's disease test in 10 days.

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**DISCUSSION.** Testing the popularity of Minnesota discussion meetings with a questionnaire to leaders showed that 98 percent declared them worth while. The opinions of the leaders on various phases of the discussion group activity will be discussed by D. C. Dvoracek, marketing specialist in Minnesota.

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**PROFESSIONAL.** "The Extension Job and What it Requires" is the title of an article by Dr. C. B. Smith, Assistant Director of Extension Work. With the expected increase in personnel and work this is a very pertinent subject to all extension workers.

### On the Calendar

American Institute of Nutrition, Memphis, Tenn., April 21-24.

Convention Montana Stock Growers Association, Bozeman, Mont., May 19-20.

National Conference of Social Workers, Indianapolis, Ind., May 23-29.

American Home Economics Association, Kansas City, Mo., June 21-25.

American Association for the Advancement of Science, Denver, Colo., June 21-26.

National Education Association, Detroit, Mich., June 27-July 1.

## CONSULT YOUR COUNTY AGENT



IN TALKING or writing on things agricultural or rural, especially where information or action in these fields is wanted, the appeal, whether from Government or industry or the press, almost invariably closes with the words, "Consult your county agent."

WITHIN 25 YEARS, the county agent has risen from an almost unknown factor in rural affairs to a place of commanding importance. Looked upon at the outset as a theorist and impractical, county agents—both men and women—have come to be the trusted counselor and guide to more than four million farm people. County agents have risen to this position, not because they have something to sell or a theory to teach, but because they help farmers increase their incomes and get more out of life.

C. B. SMITH

Assistant Director, Extension Service

COUNTY AGENTS have grown strong because they carry honest, unbiased, and, as far as they know, accurate information to the people they serve. They have grown strong because they carry sympathy and hope to rural people and point the better way. They have grown strong because they help rural people to develop themselves through counseling together, through analyzing local, county, State, and national situations, and through cooperating with Government in doing something about them.

THEY HAVE GROWN STRONG because, in carrying on their work, they help rural people to see larger, think more deeply, and act in the light of facts which farm people themselves help gather and help interpret. County agents encourage the open mind. That is perhaps their largest accomplishment.

THE MAN, who looked askance at county agents 25 years ago, seldom undertakes any large matter affecting either his farming or his home today without consulting his county agent. County agents have become an influence in rural life on a par with the great inventor, the great teacher, or the press. They are comparable to the great statesman. The county agricultural agent or the home demonstration agent is recognized as one who knows what to do about local problems or can find out and then do something about them.

MAY THE PHRASE "Consult your county agent" continue to grow in significance.



# In Quest of Farm Security

HENRY A. WALLACE

Secretary of Agriculture

To establish security of occupancy and a policy of conservation on our rented farms in the place of instability and waste will be to achieve a national ideal that has impelled the hearts of the American people since the beginning of the Nation. It demands the full and united support of a whole people.—*Secretary Wallace.*

**I**N THE late afternoon of the last day of the old year, President Roosevelt signed an Executive order putting the Resettlement Administration into the Department of Agriculture. As a part of our Department, it might be well if together we looked a little more closely at an important phase of the work of this organization to discover in a national way what it has done and what it can do.

In the first place, it would have been better if this work had been given a name

more accurately describing it—Farm Security Administration, or the Tenant Security Administration, or something like that. The title, Resettlement, suggests that families are to be picked up here and moved over there, then moved around some place else. This was never contemplated. The only people moved were those who desired to be moved. The majority of these people are being located on individual farms rather than in organized rural communities.

The most important thing about Rural Resettlement is the supervised loans which last year were made on a 5 percent interest basis to 300,000 farm families. But in addition to these 300,000, another 520,000 farm families are being helped by grants and feed loans. These last are emergency cases, most of them resulting from the drought. From a long-time point of view the 300,000 cases are more important.

## *On the Road Upward*

In the vast majority of these cases, the man rented his farm in the ordinary way from the ordinary landlord. The Government lends him perhaps \$300 to buy a mule and enough tools to put in a crop and enough groceries and feed to see him through until the crop is made. Ordinarily in the South in the past, men of this sort at the very bottom of the heap found it necessary, in order to get a start at farming, to pay an interest charge either directly or indirectly of from 20 percent to 35 percent. Now they pay only 5 percent, and they are very grateful. They have been expected to pay back this fall and winter that part of their money which was used to buy feed and groceries, and, in those sections of the

*(Continued on page 36)*

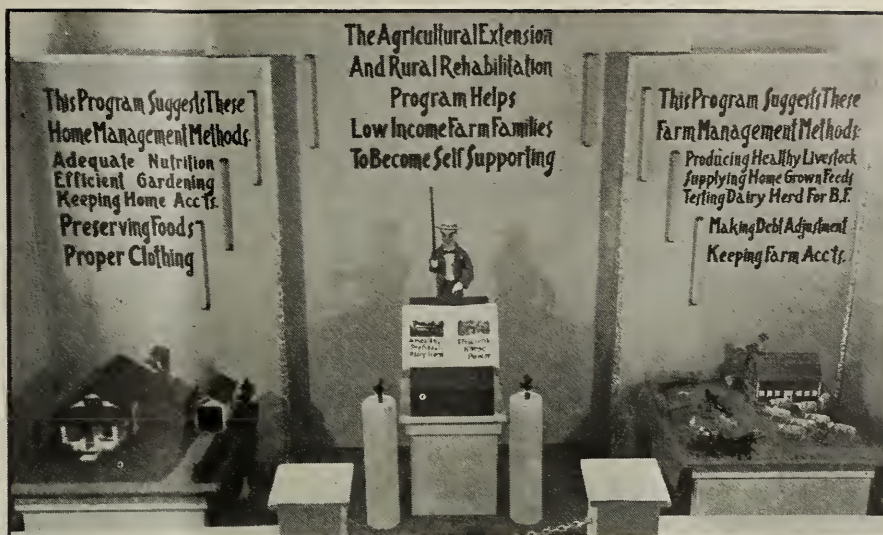


A long stride toward farm security was taken by this Missouri farmer, pictured with his family at the top of the page, who qualified for a rehabilitation loan. With the borrowed money he built this Missouri type laying house and bought 400 hens. Since then he has sold \$600 worth of eggs and bought 500 additional chicks to raise. (Pictures by Rural Resettlement Administration.)

# Helping Low-Income Farmers

H. G. SEYFORTH

County Agent, Pierce County, Wis.



## Extension and Rural Rehabilitation Develop Joint Program in Pierce County, Wis.

**E**XTENSION agents have sometimes been reproached for not helping more of the lower-income farmers. Maybe this is because farmers of this class have never been financially able to carry on some of the better farm-management practices. At any rate, since the advent of the rehabilitation loan, we have worked out in Pierce County a joint program which has given many farmers the opportunity of reestablishing themselves.

### *Working Relationship Established*

When the rural rehabilitation program was inaugurated, a memorandum agreement was drawn up between Dr. R. G. Tugwell, Administrator of the Resettlement Administration, and Dr. C. W. Warburton, in charge of the Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, whereby a working relationship was established between the Resettlement Administration and the Extension Service. In view of this agreement, Edna M. Langseth, the home agent, R. H. Hanson, the rural rehabilitation supervisor, H. L. Shanks, the assistant supervisor, and I worked out a program of cooperation to help low-income farmers to become self-supporting.

Rural rehabilitation loans have been made to 50 farmers in Pierce County who lost their farms on account of the depression and drought and to young farmers who are starting out and need some financial help. To most of these farmers money was loaned for the purpose of purchasing livestock and machinery. Rehabilitation loans are made only to worthy low-income farm families who are unable to obtain the necessary credit elsewhere.

Before the loan was made, the county agent and rural rehabilitation supervisor talked over with the client the possi-

ties he had in making a reasonable labor income on the farm he was planning to rent or buy. If it looked reasonable, the rural rehabilitation supervisor would make out the farm plan, showing inventory of farm income, expenditures for farm operations, and a budget for family needs.

In order to increase income, livestock units are added, provided sufficient feed can be supplied from this farm for such additional livestock. To make more feed available on the farm, alfalfa, sweetclover, and soybean seeds are sown, and lime is provided to insure proper growing conditions for these crops. These loans are repaid over a period not to exceed 5 years. Repayments are derived from cream-check assignments, cash crops, or sale of livestock.

Through this program, the Extension Service is helping farmers to establish healthy and profitable herds of cattle by having all herds tested for Bang's disease and butterfat production. All clients are keeping farm accounts in order that they may improve the business operations of the farm and household. Suggestions are made regarding a poultry program, as it is a good practice to have a poultry flock on every farm. Effort is being made to have a diversified crop program in order that plenty of feed for all livestock can be raised on the farm. Also, every farm family is being urged to raise a garden. In many cases, the adjustment of debts is essential before a farmer can be loaned money.

The home demonstration agent has worked out a program for the rural re-

habilitation women. This program includes personal assistance on food preservation, clothing, and other problems, and participation in regular homemakers' clubs. The desired results are accomplished by demonstrations, home visits, circular letters, and bulletins. Many of these women are members of homemakers' clubs, and more will be members this year. It is the plan to teach all these women to keep home accounts.

In helping these low-income farm families, the following factors are suggested through the 500 farm-management records kept by farmers in the county in the past few years: (1) plenty of cropland; (2) a good dairy herd; (3) flock of poultry; (4) some hogs on every farm; (5) sheep for rough land; (6) 20 percent of cropland in alfalfa.

### *Combined Program is Popular*

The farmer clients and other citizens of the county seem pleased with the combined program. Their attitude is shown by the following comments:

"I wish to take this opportunity of thanking you for the wonderful help you have given me and my family. It is now hard for me to realize that only a few short months ago my family and I were facing hunger and cold, but with the splendid start you have given us we can now look to the future full of hope and promise. To me the Resettlement Administration means the difference between

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## In Quest of Farm Security

(Continued from page 34)

country where the weather was favorable, they have been very conscientious in their repayment.

The outstanding thing about the rehabilitation loan, in my opinion, is not the lending of the money at 5 percent interest, but the guidance and stimulation which are given to the borrowing farmers by the county supervisor and the home supervisor. The Government is definitely going to those at the bottom of the heap and trying by supervision and encouragement to get them started on the road upward.

### *The Need for Action*

I realize, of course, that there are many well-to-do people, both on the farms and in town, who raise the question as to why the Federal Government should do anything for these people. My answer to this is that in proportion to the population, there are just as many farm people unemployed and just as many farm people in the relief category, especially after a year of great drought, as in the towns and cities. Previous to the depression, many of these people who are now stranded out in the country worked in town. Farmers comprising over 23 percent of the population have had to carry more than their fair share of the relief load. Furthermore, it is possible for the Government, by far less expenditure per family than in town, to get these poor people started back on the road to self-respect. This is more economical than relief. A dollar used in making a supervised loan in the country makes this family self-supporting and most of it will finally be repaid to the Federal Treasury.

One of the big reasons why the Government should take a big interest in the farmers at the bottom of the heap is that the Government is responsible to a considerable extent for these farmers being in such unusual trouble. Year after year the State and Federal Governments have spent millions of dollars to discover more scientific methods of producing farm products. Other millions of Federal and State money have been spent to carry to the top one-third of the farmers that which has been learned. As a result the top one-third of the farmers, most of whom were raised in good homes, and who were given a head start in the world with a little capital and who have the good fortune to be on the richer land or larger

farms, are able to produce about five times as much per man as the bottom one-third of the farmers, most of whom were raised under poverty-stricken conditions, or who have bad health or who live on small farms or farms with poor land. In the days before scientific farming and county agents, there was not nearly so much difference between the top farmers and the bottom farmers. But today, largely as a result of governmental experimentation and education utilized chiefly by the top one-third of the farmers, the men at the top have a terrific competitive advantage over the men at the bottom.

### *An Important Problem*

The problem is to cultivate in these people the feeling that they really have a chance, but not the feeling that they must lean on the county supervisor or the Government for everything. The supervision is necessary at first, but sooner or later they must be weaned or graduated. It is right that the Government should give these people every proper opportunity to make responsible citizens out of themselves, but it would be a serious mistake for the Government to coddle them into a feeling of dependence. The Resettlement Administration has therefore looked on its loan clients in much the same way as a college looks on students going through school. Some of the students are very bright and can graduate in a couple of years. Others must be sent away for the sake of the morals of the college, but the great majority graduate in about 4 years.

### *Approach to Tenancy Question*

I am wondering if the supervised loan policy of the Resettlement Administration isn't one of the best ways of approaching the tenancy problem over large sections of the United States. Many tenants in the United States do not have the training at the present time to take care of a farm properly if it were given to them tomorrow free of mortgage. Moreover, it isn't likely that at any time in the near future the Government can furnish enough money to enable any large percentage of the tenants to become landowners. But the tenants can be started upward, first toward tenant security, then if they are men of real capacity, toward landownership. From the standpoint of commercial farming, those tenant farmers on the smaller farms and the poorer land will never be an important factor in increasing production for market. But most of these tenants

have children who are just as good as anyone else's children, provided they are properly fed, properly trained and given adequate protection against disease. There are many millions of these children, and in all fairness the Government must use some of the power of its scientific research and its educational facilities to make sure that they are given a better chance.

There are many other important features of the Resettlement Administration, such as housing projects, farm-debt adjustment, and retirement of substandard land, but the most important is the effort made through rehabilitation loans to solve the problems of the less fortunate people who have never had a real chance and whose children, if they do not have a chance, will create the gravest problems for our children.

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## Helping Low-Income Farmers

(Continued from page 35)

failure and despair and success and happiness. Once again I can be glad to be alive and proud of my country."

"My farming and living conditions have been improved 50 percent through this loan. If it had not been for this loan, I would have had to give up the farm and look for other employment elsewhere."

"I believe that if these people had not got help through the rural rehabilitation, they would have been a burden to the township. We have a few more who need it and hope it will be continued."

The program, up to the present time, has demonstrated that farmers are not seeking direct relief but do appreciate the assistance available through rural rehabilitation and are glad to repay their loans in conformity with the farm plans that are worked out for them.

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## From Farms and 4-H Clubs

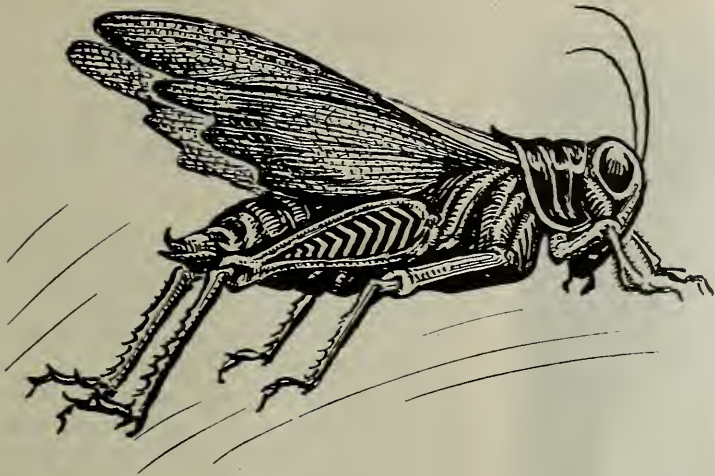
More than four-fifths of all the students coming from farms and enrolling in agriculture or home economics at Iowa State College are former 4-H club members. Of all the students enrolled in the college, 1,021, or approximately 21 percent, are former club members.

# Turkeys Versus Grasshoppers

## Heavy Grasshopper Damage Leads to Profitable Turkey Growing

C. A. HENDERSON

County Agent,  
Klamath County, Oreg.



**T**HE USE of turkeys for the control of grasshoppers was first considered in Klamath County about 6 years ago. The Klamath Basin, comprising practically all of Klamath County, Oreg., and the northern portions of Modoc and Siskiyou Counties, Calif., had long been subject to heavy grasshopper infestations, particularly on high mountain meadowland and on reclaimed lake bottoms. For many years tremendous infestations took place annually in this district on Tule Lake, Upper Klamath Marsh, Wood River Valley. Lower Klamath Lake, and other smaller valleys.

### *Hoppers Take Their Toll*

The situation was so serious from 1920 to 1930 that many thousands of dollars were spent annually by landowners, the counties involved, and the States of Oregon and California, with some assistance from the Federal Government. In the early years of this decade the annual crop loss was estimated at more than a quarter of a million dollars.

Poisoning was the main weapon of defense, and millions of pounds of poison bran mash were mixed and spread over the infested areas. In 1931 a total of more than \$48,000 was expended for control operations, with 210,000 acres of land treated that year. By this means grasshoppers were held in check, and crop loss was kept to a minimum.

Under these conditions, the growing of turkeys as a control measure seemed worthy of consideration. The first 2 years, turkeys ranged on grasshopper-infested lands were observed closely, and it seemed possible that if there were enough turkeys, the tremendous cost of controlling these insect pests might be turned to

Several large landowners were called together and the matter thoroughly discussed, resulting in the establishment of a small, cheaply constructed brooder in 1934. A total of approximately 15,000 poults were brooded and ranged that year, with good results. The enterprise carried itself and returned a slight profit to the owners while poisoning operations were decreased that year.

In 1935, these landowners built a large modern brooder and brooded out about 35,000 poults. Other landowners became interested and purchased another 6,000 or 7,000 poults from other brooding establishments outside the county, so that a total of about 45,000 turkeys were ranged on grasshopper lands that year. The original growers formed a marketing or-



profit. With this in mind, in 1933 two men operating turkeys in Colorado were induced to bring them to Klamath, and 5,800 turkeys were raised on the grasshopper-infested lands that year. While results were not outstanding, this experiment indicated that turkeys were of major importance in grasshopper control and could be handled at a profit.

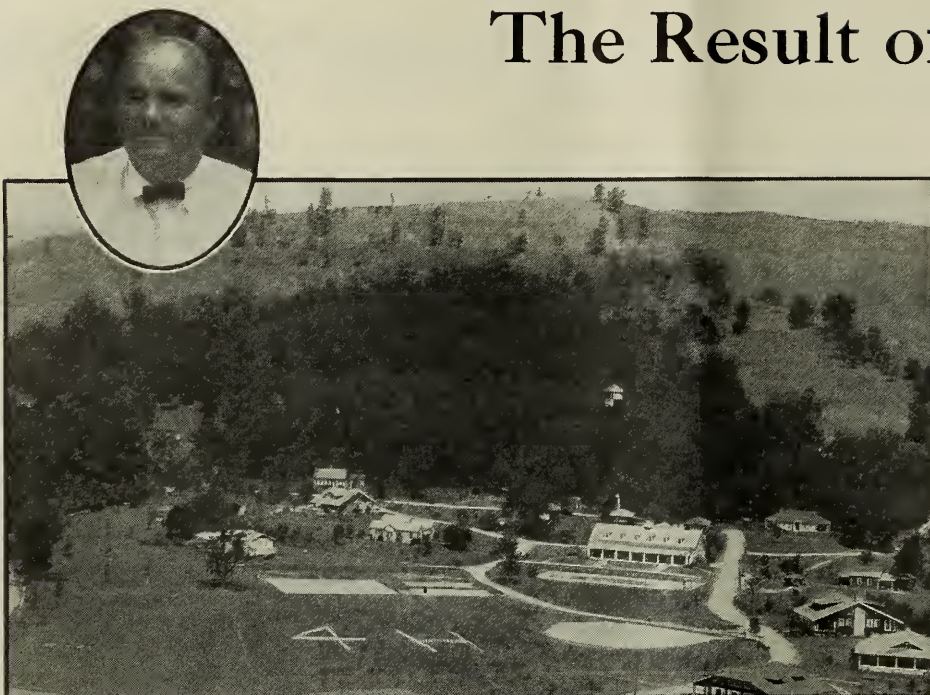
ganization and pooled their turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas markets, shipping several carloads to the markets of the Atlantic seaboard. The venture was successful, and the brooding plant was practically paid for with the first year's operations.

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## A Place in the Extension Program

### For West Virginia's State 4-H Camp Is

# The Result of Larger Service



WILLIAM H. KENDRICK

Director  
State 4-H Camp  
West Virginia

of 4-H boys and girls, for all club members in the counties have had some part in building them. These cottages are a direct tie between the county people and the State extension program.

Others besides club members have helped to build county cottages, showing that the diversified interests in the camp have been maintained. In one county the Kiwanis Club gave the roof, a woman's organization gave the chimney and fireplace, the Rotary Club gave the floor, 4-H clubs used many methods of raising money, contractors gave time, labor, and equipment, and the county has a fine permanent camp home as a result of their united efforts.

The State has likewise contributed generously to the camp's equipment with a \$45,000 "Mount Vernon" dining hall, an assembly hall, bathhouses, craft shops, sand and gravel for a swimming pool, water and sewage plants, and other necessary camp structures and equipment. A fine new auditorium is being planned.

Commercial concerns have donated materials—crushed limestone for roads, cut limestone for the director's cottage, lumber for the county cottages, farm and camp equipment—and railroads have given free transportation for carloads of donated material.

#### *Serves Whole State*

Now the camp stands as a 4-H shrine for West Virginia's boys and girls. After 17 years of effort that has really been cooperative, with a camp site of 523 acres and property, buildings, and equipment valued at almost a million dollars, it is serving all of West Virginia. Started as a 4-H camp, it has grown to encompass groups in many walks of life and is used from May to October.

*(Continued on page 44)*

**T**RAINING approximately 45,000 rural and urban leaders is a job which will contribute much to the success of any Extension Service program. It is a job which may look almost impossible, yet in West Virginia at the State 4-H camp we have accomplished that task during the past 17 years. Many of those attending the first State camps are still actively leading groups in their respective communities. Some are county extension workers better fitted for their work through the leadership training offered at State 4-H camp. Many have been connected with extension groups in other States, and still others have entered widely diversified fields of leadership.

Early in the development of the State 4-H camp, we realized that the support of widely interested groups would prove invaluable in building the camp and in strengthening the interest in agricultural programs. Indeed the interest of extension and other groups was assured before there was any material evidence of the camp itself. I have on my desk a scrapbook of camp pictures. They were of just anybody's camp. It was my "sales" book. If boys and girls who were able to pay large fees could have such opportunities, why should others be denied? If city boys and girls had health camps, recreation camps, and educational camps, country boys and girls should be afforded

the same opportunities. That little book traveled all over West Virginia, and men and women, boys and girls in all walks of life saw it and heard our "sales talk." The legislature passed the law establishing the camp without a single dissenting vote.

That first year we had time and facilities for only 4-H club boys and girls. We had a temporary dining hall and three small buildings on 5 acres of ground that had been given to us. It was said by the owner after looking at the "sales" book, "If that is what you want it for, you may have the 5 acres." Then a local business group gave 30 acres of land; the State erected an assembly hall; and two counties built cottages.

#### *County Cottages Built*

The 4-H organization of the county in which the camp is located decided that they should have a home at the camp. The 4-H boys and girls raised a part of the money; generous people made donations, and the county court added enough to build the \$7,000 Lewis County cottage. It was the first of 12 county cottages that have been constructed to date, ranging in cost from \$3,000 to \$18,000. A new one has just been finished by Braxton County, and the prospects are bright for the starting of two more. They are truly the State 4-H camp homes

## Heads Together, Research and Extension Show New York Growers

# How to Treat Potatoes Right

Research studies at the New York State College of Agriculture showed that mechanical injury was seriously cutting down the profit on potatoes. The facts were given to the growers by extension agents and by specialists, and considerable progress was made in reducing tuber injury, according to this article by E. V. Hardenburg, vegetable gardening extension specialist.

**M**ECCHANICAL injury of various types is not only common but serious in most stocks of potatoes sold in this country. Much of this is the result of careless digging, but more is added in the processes of subsequent handling in the channels of trade. During the harvest season of 1931 and 1932, field studies of tuber defects were made on 238 farms in 15 New York counties. It was found that an average of more than 13 percent of all tubers dug were mechanically injured in the digging process alone. Nine percent of this total was bruising. The survey showed clearly that most of this injury was due to one or more of three factors; namely, (1) too little soil carried on the digger chain, (2) too much speed and agitation of the digger chain, and (3) too much drop from the elevator onto the rear attachment.

Subsequently, a study of consumers' preference in the Cleveland potato market was made by the New York State College of Agriculture in March 1936. Analyses of 143 samples of potatoes from 7 States as purchased by consumers revealed the startling fact that only 11 percent of these samples graded No. 1 or better, whereas more than 40 percent graded culls. Of all the defects contributing to this poor record of market quality, bruising alone was responsible for 42.7 percent. Stimulated by these facts, plans were made to hold potato-digging demonstrations in the field during the fall of 1936. The procedure and results appear to have been very satisfactory.

Circular letters calling attention to the seriousness of the problem, the economy involved in conserving market quality, and the method suggested for staging the demonstrations were prepared. These were sent to the county agricultural agents in all potato counties. In spite of the difficulty of scheduling such demonstrations to fit the growers' harvesting plans, the response was excellent. Demonstrations were held on 10 farms in 5 counties and attended by a total of 287 farmers. In

each county the agent publicized the meetings well and arranged to have at least two different makes of diggers available for the demonstration.

The procedure was usually as follows: Results of the field surveys of 1931 and 1932 were reviewed to show the nature of the problem and the importance of doing something to solve it. Secondly, the prevalence of mechanical injury in the potatoes bought by the consumers in Cleveland was pointed out. Then followed a discussion by a representative of the Department of Agricultural Engineering of various ways of adjusting, padding, equipping, and operating the diggers to reduce bruising to a minimum. Each digger was then operated in various ways and counts of mechanical injuries made as a measure of results.

Without exception, injury was reduced as a result of adjustments made. Among the methods observed were the use of continuous apron compared with use of rear attachment; padding of shaker bars compared with those with no padding; high and intermediate speed with slow speed; digger point set deep with same set shallow; rear apron with and without outside rear drive chain; loose chain with tight chain; and digger equipped with and without agitators. The effectiveness of these demonstrations was enhanced by the fact that it was always possible to reduce tuber injury without additional cost to the grower and with whatever make of digger he now operates. It is planned to use these demonstrations on a more extensive scale next year.



This potato-digging demonstration showed that ample horsepower and slow speed reduced the bruising to 1 percent.

# More and More Terraces



The grader and cat in operation.

Rusk County, Tex., is working on a long-time program to control surface erosion. With the help of the soil conservation program and the county commissioners' court, they are making headway toward their goal, as can be seen from this account of the work by County Agent S. L. Neal.

• • •

WITH the degree of slope prevalent in the majority of east Texas counties and the rapidity with which water runs off the surface, a considerable amount of surface erosion is going on constantly when rain falls. During the past few years, the necessity for some means to check this erosion has been realized to a greater extent. The American people usually change their methods or improve upon them when necessary. It has been more and more evident during the past 4 or 5 years that some effort must be made to prevent surface erosion.

The idea has been taking hold in Rusk County and, during the past 7 or 8 years, a great deal of terracing has been done, but the agricultural conservation program has done more than anything else to stimulate interest, and the purchase of terracing equipment by the commissioners' court has done more to translate this interest into action.

Two sets of terracing equipment have been purchased by the court and are now in use, making it possible to run a tractor and grader alternately in two commissioner precincts a month. In addition, the county owns 4 Texas terracers, 20

fresnoes, and 16 Kelly terracing plows to be used by farmers who do not feel able to hire the terraces built. Where terraces are built with the caterpillar and the grader, a minimum charge is made of \$1.50 per hour. During fair weather an average of 2½ miles of terraces are constructed each day. This is in addition to the terraces being built by individual farm owners and operators.

The county pays two men on each "outfit" \$5 per day each for operating the machines and one man \$2.50 per day to assist in running lines. The county supplements whatever is needed in the cost of maintaining the machinery and other expense. Close calculation shows that the county is spending approximately \$2 to every \$1 spent by the farm owners. Terracing is a good investment, not only from the standpoint of the farm owner and operator but from the standpoint of public welfare in road maintenance and the prevention of floods.

From October 1935 to October 1936 more than 100 farms were terraced, with approximately 4,000 acres taken care of by the terraces and 375 miles of terraces built.

Sixty farmers have taken advantage of the agricultural conservation program by terracing idle cropland and land from which no soil-depleting crop was harvested during 1936. This has been of great assistance to farmers, the benefit payments making it possible for many of them to carry on the work.

A still greater expansion of the program is planned. It is hoped that, during the coming year, it will be possible to give the farmers help with terrace building on the approximate date they desire it. At present, with all the terracing equipment in operation, the work is from 1 to 2

months behind. The people are realizing the necessity and are taking advantage of the golden opportunity.

The next 4 or 5 years will begin to show results of this energetic attack on the great problem of preventing surface erosion in Rusk County.

## Dairymen Go to School

Dairymen in nine Missouri counties are attending schools sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service this winter and early spring. The meetings, called dairy feeding and breeding schools, are held once a month in each county and continue until a series of five is completed. The schools open at 10 o'clock in the morning and continue until 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The first of the five sessions is concerned with a brief history of dairying and the fundamentals of dairy feeding. The second lesson considers common feeds and their place in an economically balanced ration. Disease control is discussed at the following meeting. Selective breeding for high milk production is considered next. The fifth class takes up dairy farm management.

The schools are conducted by M. J. Regan, Warren Gifford, and Paul Piercy, of the State staff, with the assistance of the county agents in the counties participating. They believe that the regular series of meetings makes possible the progressive presentation of many of the fundamentals of dairying. The farmers know in advance what is to be taken up at each meeting and bring their individual problems on that particular subject. The men get acquainted with their instructors and readily enter into the discussion. Such schools also make it possible to present more advanced material in succeeding years to a more experienced group.

## Dollars Saved

The farmers of Calhoun County, Ill., saved thousands of dollars on spray materials last year as a result of an early inspection by W. P. Flint, chief entomologist of the university. Mr. Flint, after examining 30 sample twigs that had been sent to him by Farm Adviser J. H. Allison, discovered that the number of live San Jose scale did not warrant the expense of spraying. In the fall the recommendations were found to have been accurate.

## Union County, North Carolina

### Opens Its 1937 Program With

# A Thoroughly Satisfactory Meeting

**E**ARLY in December, in spite of a heavy rainfall all day, approximately 100 home demonstration club officials and leaders came to Monroe, Union County, N. C., to make plans for the 1937 club program.

Instead of the usual procedure in calling the roll, a guessing contest was staged to see if the various clubs would be recognized. The contest began with "Which club started with 9 members and now has 26?" The other clubs followed in a similar fashion.

The outstanding features of the 1937 program were first discussed. These included the federation meeting in May, the educational trip to Magnolia Gardens, the State short course at the State College of Agriculture in July, community picnics in August, club booths and exhibits at the Union Fair in October, program-planning day, and club Christmas trees.

Mary E. Thomas, foods and nutrition specialist of the State College, whose project was under consideration, explained in detail the possible second year's program in foods and nutrition. The council then adopted the program, making suggestions as to changes. The month-to-month program will be: January, meal planning; February, meatcooking; March, meat substitutes; April, salads; May, yeast breads; June, simple desserts; July, food conservation; September, quick breads for the school lunch; October, flower arrangement; November, table setting and service; December, Christmas meeting.

All during the past year the club members have been urged to submit to their leaders lists of subjects which they would like to have incorporated in the program for the coming year. Each leader then made up a list of subjects which her members particularly wanted and brought them to the county meeting on December 7, the day set aside for program planning. Each project was discussed, changes made if the majority so desired, and the program was then adopted. The foods and nutrition specialist of the extension

"It was a lively and thoroughly satisfactory meeting", writes Mrs. Pratt C. McSwain, home demonstration agent in Union County, N. C., "and so many other agents have written to me about it that I am sending this account to the Review."

department and the home agent guided each discussion group in order to be sure that requests were fundamentally sound from a home demonstration standpoint and planned to meet the fundamental needs of the farm home.

In addition to the major project, the nine chairmen with their leaders (one from each club) planned the nine minor projects which will be studied during 1937.

At the noon hour the club members had as their guests the members of the board of county commissioners, farm agents, and other invited guests.

Immediately following luncheon, the guests were introduced to the delegation, and prizes amounting to \$45 were presented to the club women winning prizes in a recent canning contest.

Promptly at 3 o'clock, Santa Claus came upon the scene, and the 100 officers and leaders joined in singing Jingle Bells while gifts were exchanged. After a number of interesting games, a county chorus was organized with Mrs. O. L. Mangum as leader.

This was a lively meeting and a thoroughly satisfactory one to all concerned.

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## More 4-H Club Members Go to College

**A**LMOST 34 percent of the total enrollment in agriculture and home economics in 12 of the agricultural colleges of the Central States consists of former 4-H club members. The 12 colleges registered a total of 12,575 students in agriculture and home economics, and of this number 4,250 are former club members. Nebraska ranks first, with 46.02 percent of students in these courses being former 4-H club members; Illinois, with 45.57 percent; Kansas, with 42 percent; and Indiana, with 39.15 percent, follow in that order.

The relative number of former club members has increased 560 percent since 1927-28 when the reports from 12 States showed only 751 former 4-H club members enrolled.

"These data tend to show the effectiveness of 4-H club work in fostering desires for further educational attainment on the

part of farm young people and is directing an increasing number toward the State agricultural colleges", says R. A. Turner, field agent in 4-H club work for the Central States, who made the study.

In addition, other former club members are enrolled in special or graduate work in agriculture or home economics. There are 49 at Iowa, 10 at Michigan, and 7 at South Dakota. Iowa leads those States reporting the total number of former club members enrolled in the State Agricultural College with 1,021; Kansas follows with 900; Michigan has 367; and South Dakota reports 181. Wisconsin reports 70.3 percent and Michigan 38.2 percent of their short-course students as former 4-H club members.

College 4-H clubs report the following memberships: Iowa, 450; Kansas, 350; Illinois, 250; Kentucky, 96, and South Dakota, 30.

## Turkeys versus Grass-hoppers

(Continued from page 37)

The plant was extended to a capacity of 100,000 turkeys in 1936. Cold and wet weather during June decreased this number, causing severe losses. Notwithstanding this, the number of turkeys turned out was greater than the year before and, in addition, numerous turkeys were brought in from other points, making a total of about 45,000 birds to be marketed in 1936. It is planned at the present time to continue this operation and improve the brooding facilities to prevent a recurrence of last year's experience.

The general procedure in using turkeys for grasshopper control is to haul them from the brooder to the infested area at from 7 to 10 weeks of age, ranging them in bands of approximately 2,500 each. Temporary roosts are built with a tent covering, as storms frequently occur in the mountain areas during that period. Two men with good dogs are usually required to herd each band during the summer months. When one area is cleaned out, the turkeys may be moved several miles to another infested spot. The turkeys are kept in the grasshopper area until the 'hoppers start dying, usually in September, and from there they are moved into stubble fields and fattening pens for the finishing process.

### Hopper Casualties

On several occasions turkeys have been closely examined and observed as to the number of grasshoppers that each will destroy daily. During the early part of the season, before grasshoppers have attained their full size, we have found that, on the average, a turkey will consume around 1,000 grasshoppers per day. Later in the fall, when adult hoppers are congregating on egg-laying grounds, the turkeys are moved to these areas and catch a tremendous number of hoppers, averaging 500 to 800 per day. This is particularly important as the adult female hoppers are attempting to deposit eggs for next year's crop. In several places, egg beds have been completely wiped out by turkeys.

No ill effects have been noticed due to the heavy grasshopper diet, although a grain mash is always fed along with the grasshoppers. In heavily infested territory we find that turkeys will average about 500 grasshoppers per day and that the season will last about 120 days. It is hoped that the turkey population will be developed to the point where 100,000 turkeys will be used for this purpose. In a season this number of turkeys will con-

sume approximately 6,000,000 grasshoppers, and we believe this will take care of our future grasshopper problem.

It is interesting to note that, as turkey operations have increased, the amount of money expended for grasshopper control by landowners and public bodies has decreased. In the year 1936 Klamath County spent only \$500 in combating this pest, as compared to an annual county appropriation of \$7,000 to \$8,000 a few years ago. No funds have been budgeted by public bodies for control work in 1937, as we anticipate that the turkeys can and will handle the situation. Along with this, a nice profit was returned to turkey operators during the years 1934 and 1935. The price, of course, was somewhat lower in 1936, and the margin of profit, if any, will be rather small, which might tend to slow up operations for the coming year.

We believe this method of control to be very practical and feasible, although it requires considerable educational work for the first few years. Without question, turkeys can be produced cheaply under this system, and if there is any money to be made in turkeys, this type of operator should do better than the average. He also can render a community service as well as limit or entirely remove crop loss by insect pests.

### Community Come-back

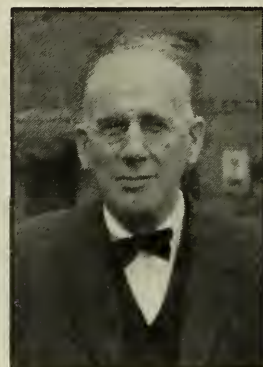
Just as it is an ill wind that bloweth no man good, here and there in Arkansas may be found a rural community that has actually benefited by the enforced back-to-the-farm movement caused by the economic depression of 1929. Prairie Grove in Washington County, Ark., is such a community, says O. L. McMurray, county agent.

In the early days this valley, bounded on the northwest and south by mountains and on the east by the Illinois River, was famous for its livestock and prosperous homesteads. About 1912, however, there began a migration of many of the more prosperous inhabitants to the city, leaving the farms largely in the hands of tenants. Then the high grain prices of 1917-20 caused intensive cultivation of the land, resulting in depletion until the valley was badly scarred by erosion. By 1934 the valley was showing results of careless farming.

With the return of owners to the farms during the depression, they began to rebuild the valley. The first step was to establish meadows, terrace plowable land to check erosion, and add lime to enable the growing of alfalfa and red clover.

The farmers bought a lime crusher and terracing machine, and many expect to plant alfalfa and clovers next year.

## Massachusetts Honors A Beloved Leader



A gold medal was awarded by the Massachusetts State Department of Agriculture to George L. Farley who, since 1916 has been State leader of 4-H club work. President Roosevelt, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, Massachusetts Senators David I. Walsh and Henry C. Lodge, Jr., and ex-Governors and present Governors of New England States were among those who sent letters of congratulation to be included in a bound volume presented with the medal. This volume also contained the signatures of most of the 20,000 4-H club members and leaders in Massachusetts.

The award was made at the union banquet featured by the 19 organizations interested in agriculture and farm life holding their nineteenth annual meeting at Worcester, Mass., January 6, 7, and 8, sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture. More than 3,500 persons attended the meeting.

Under Mr. Farley, the 4-H work in Massachusetts has grown from 1 assistant State leader and 1 county leader to 5 assistant State leaders and 26 county club agents. Mr. Farley, who has been blind since 1933, considers the building of the first 4-H clubhouse on the campus his greatest accomplishment. This clubhouse was the first ever built on a State college campus and was not only built by money contributed by 4-H club members and friends but practically the entire structure was put up by 4-H club members under the supervision of older men who donated their time. A second 4-H clubhouse is now under construction on the campus.

## New Agricultural Buildings

Provide North Carolina Agents with

# Adequate Equipment and Offices

The need for more office room and more equipment has increased rapidly in all States in the last few years. In some places this additional space can be obtained in a new Federal building, or in the county courthouse, whereas elsewhere, as in North Carolina, special buildings for extension agents are being erected with P. W. A. and county funds.

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**T**HE CONSTRUCTION of 34 new buildings for county extension agents during the past year indicates the growing appreciation of agricultural extension work in North Carolina.



Lee County Agricultural Building at Sanford, N. C.

In these counties people saw that the agents were handicapped by lack of room and office equipment, and, as a result, farmers felt that they could not receive the full benefits of the extension program.

In response to public demand, and through a desire to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of extension work, Dean I. O. Schaub, director of extension at State College, and John W. Goodman, assistant director, began working out plans for erecting new extension buildings.

Plans for a standard type of building, with quarters for both the farm and home agents and their assistants, were drawn up by the extension agricultural engineering department, and estimates were made on the cost of materials and labor.



Union County Agricultural Building at Monroe, N. C.

The A. A. A. and other enlarged aspects of the extension program had increased the duties of the farm and home agents to such an extent that in a number of counties the old offices did not provide adequate facilities for carrying on the work.

Blueprints and estimates were submitted to 60 counties.

In 34 counties arrangements were made for constructing these buildings with the aid of W. P. A. funds, the counties to pay approximately 30 percent and the W. P. A. 70 percent of the

cost. The counties furnished the necessary lots.

In addition, eight other counties are planning to build new extension offices in the near future, and a number of others have provided extension office space in post-office buildings and in additions to courthouses.

The total cost of erecting the 34 new buildings and the 8 now contemplated will run close to \$500,000, not including the value of the lots on which they stand. The lots are valued at \$2,000 to \$5,000 for the most part, with a few in the larger cities running considerably higher.

Besides the offices for the agricultural agents, home agents, and assistants, the buildings contain office room for clerks, home demonstration laboratories, conference rooms, and assembly halls large enough to seat 150 people comfortably. In some of the counties, quarters were also added for Negro extension work and for storage purposes. Each building has a strong vault for preserving important papers, checks, and such cash as may be kept on hand from time to time. The sturdy brick construction and pleasing architecture of these buildings make them valuable assets to the communities in which they are located.

In each of the 34 counties the buildings have been completed, with the job well done. It is expected that these buildings will provide adequate quarters for extension work for years to come. When the other eight counties erect their buildings, almost every county in the State will have enough space to take care of all the extension and A. A. A. work now under way.

The counties supplied chairs, desks, and much of the other equipment needed for the new buildings and for agents elsewhere who were provided with larger office space.

Through extension headquarters at North Carolina State College, calculating machines, adding machines, one or two typewriters, and two or three filing cases were supplied to the agents in most of the counties. These were purchased with extension and A. A. A. funds. In 60 or 70 counties mimeograph machines were supplied so that the agents could prepare their many form letters and statements in their own offices.

Some \$60,000 was spent through the State office in purchasing the equipment distributed to the various counties. The office also made arrangements for the counties to get State-contract prices on equipment purchased directly with county money. This effected a saving of several thousand dollars to the counties.

## Outlook Charts for 1937

THE following 26 series, showing selected charts prepared by the outlook committee of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, have been completed by the Division of Cooperative Extension in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. They may be purchased at the prices indicated from Dewey & Dewey, Kenosha, Wis., after first obtaining authorization from the United States Department of Agriculture. Blanks for this purpose will be supplied upon request to the Division of Cooperative Extension. The film strips are as follows:

Series 368. *Demand Outlook Charts, 1937.*—41 frames, 50 cents.

Series 385. *Wheat Outlook Charts, 1937.*—48 frames, 50 cents.

Series 386. *Poultry and Egg Outlook Charts, 1937.*—39 frames, 50 cents.

Series 389. *Hogs Outlook Charts, 1937.*—48 frames, 50 cents (pending).

Series 390. *Beef Cattle Outlook Charts, 1937.*—48 frames, 50 cents (pending).

Series 391. *Cotton Outlook Charts, 1937.*—46 frames, 50 cents.

Series 392. *Potato Outlook Charts, 1937.*—28 frames, 50 cents.

Series 394. *Dairy Outlook Charts, 1937.*—40 frames, 50 cents.

Series 395. *Sweetpotato Outlook Charts, 1937.*—20 frames, 50 cents.

Series 437. *Vegetable Crops for Fresh Market Outlook Charts, 1937.*—47 frames, 50 cents.

Series 397. *Sheep and Lamb Outlook Charts, 1937.*—36 frames, 50 cents (pending).

Series 398. *Other Fruits Outlook Charts, 1937.*—Pears, grapes, strawberries, and cherries. 26 frames, 50 cents.

Series 400. *Apple Outlook Charts, 1937.*—48 frames, 50 cents.

Series 402. *Citrus Fruit Outlook Charts, 1937.*—48 frames, 50 cents.

Series 403. *Flue-cured Tobacco Outlook Charts, 1937.*—36 frames, 50 cents.

Series 422. *Turkey Outlook Charts, 1937.*—19 frames, 50 cents.

Series 423. *Feed Crops and Livestock Outlook Charts, 1937.*—40 frames, 50 cents.

Series 424. *Outlook Charts for Tree Nuts, 1937.*—Walnuts, pecans, and almonds.—23 frames, 50 cents.

Series 428. *Wool Outlook Charts, 1937.*—31 frames, 50 cents.

Series 429. *Meat Animals and Meats Outlook Charts, 1937.*—40 frames, 50 cents (pending).

Series 430. *Foreign Cotton Situation Charts, 1937.*—48 frames, 50 cents.

Series 431. *Cotton Grade and Staple Charts, 1937.*—38 frames, 50 cents (pending).

Series 432. *Peach Outlook Charts, 1937.*—32 frames, 50 cents.

Series 433. *Fruits Summary Outlook Charts, 1937.*—39 frames, 50 cents.

Series 434. *Dry Bean Outlook Charts, 1937.*—24 frames, 50 cents (pending).

Series 436. *Vegetable Crops for Manufacture Outlook Charts, 1937.*—24 frames, 50 cents.

### The Result of Larger Service

(Continued from page 38)

Early in May come the meetings of the livestock association and the State minister's conference. In June the volunteer 4-H club leaders, the younger 4-H club girls, and the older club girls hold their State camps. Then, in July, four groups of young people from as many church denominations meet with their leaders. During August, farm homemakers, 4-H boys, and the State farm bureau come to camp, and in September the leisure-time camp, the commercial photographers, and finally the Country Life Jubilee and the State 4-H Fair. The enrollments for these groups range from 150 to more than 400 each, with visitors at the jubilee and fair reaching 25,000 a day.

4-H club boys and girls, seeking to be of the greatest service have been generous, in lending their camp facilities and equipment to other groups. In so doing they have served to strengthen the 4-H program and extension work as a whole, for every person who attends the camp or who may make a short visit learns of its connection and the services of the agricultural extension work. In approving the program of the camp, they likewise approve, in varying degrees, all extension activities.

It has been this sustained and universal support that has made progress possible. There has been no single group opposed

to the camp, its ideals, its program, or its operation. It has been estimated that more than a million people have visited or participated in some activity at the camp. From West Virginia, from other States, and from lands beyond the seas have come our visitors.

Ours has not been an impossible task. With the enthusiastic help of thousands of 4-H club boys and girls, the continued and increasing support of men and women with vision, and the varied groups served by the camp, improvement and growth have been made possible. Seeking out new and better ways of service, adapting our facilities to the greatest need, and building a program on life situations have brought about universal approval of West Virginia's State 4-H camp.

### Calendar Records

A calendar is used by Frank Jones, county agricultural agent in Lamoille County, Vt., to get records for his farm-management project. He gets records on about 250 farms every year, has these records tabulated, and sends the results to farmers. Some of these farm records have been kept continuously for 5 years. The calendar record book, recording purchased feed and sales, makes it easy to keep records.

### Shorten

Long winter evenings are shortened for farm girls and others enrolling in Illinois 4-H projects known as the leisure-time and party-a-month activities.

## South Carolina County

### Bases Its 1937 Program on

# Community Organizations

South Carolina has developed a plan of county program building and a community organization for carrying it out which is operating successfully in many counties. How it worked in Horry County, S. C., is here described by J. C. McComb, assistant county agent.

**I**N THE early fall of 1936, a county agricultural advisory and planning committee was selected in Horry County, S. C., for the purpose of working up a county agricultural program. This committee was composed of 10 men and 3 women representing every section of the county.

In order to work out an agricultural program for the county, the committee members were supplied with all the data available on farming in the county, the State, and the Nation. From a study of these facts and from their knowledge of the people and of agriculture of the county they formulated the recommendations as to acreages of crops and numbers of livestock that the county should be producing at the end of a long-time period of 10 years.

Using these recommendations as the ground work, a plan of organization for the county was developed; and out of these plans came a scheme of community organization to be used as the basis for achieving the county goals. The committee suggested that the county agricultural and home agents organize these communities with the idea of gradual rural betterment, to materialize into the definite set goals by the end of the long-time period of 10 years.

In setting up community programs, it was decided that a series of three meetings should be held in each community for organizing and lining up demonstrations. The time was spent at the first meeting in trying to interest the community in its local agricultural problems of production and marketing. The people discussed the problems from a local angle and selected a committee to meet at a later date with the farm and home agents to draw up a community program.

After the program had been drawn up by the committee at the second meeting,

another general meeting was called. No effort was spared to obtain a good representative attendance at this meeting which adopted a program for the community and planned how it should be put into effect. The various demonstrations required in the program were explained, and local farmers and farm women volunteered to undertake them. A permanent chairman was also elected to call meetings during the year whenever needed to further the community program.

Fifteen communities in Horry County organized in this way for program planning in 1937. Homewood, one of these communities, has adopted a program which is typical of many of them. Homewood states as the object of its program: "To put into practice a community farm program, that agriculture might be more self-sustaining and profitable, and to center efforts toward carrying out this program with everyone pulling together, making use of farm and home agents and community agricultural organizations and workers."

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## New Jersey Farmers Tour Federal Research Center

One of the most interesting things we have done this season was to make a tour to Washington, D. C., to visit the research center maintained by the Department of Agriculture at Beltsville, Md. It came about because a number of our people were expressing a desire to get away and see something of particular interest. This was probably due to the number of county tours from Pennsylvania which passed through Mercer County the past summer. The farm folks in these parties seemed to be getting a lot out of the tours, and our folks were anxious to try one.

As the season was late, it was decided to go just to Washington and Beltsville. All arrangements for the trip were made by the railroad and proved very satisfactory. After sightseeing in Washington, a meeting was held at the hotel in the evening to become acquainted with some of the Federal extension staff and a representative of the National Milk Producers' Association.

The methods by which the program is to be achieved are: First, live-at-home demonstrations; and second, demonstrations in the profitable raising of cash crops and livestock. In regard to tobacco, the main cash crop of the community, there are to be two tobacco-plant-bed demonstrations, two tobacco-fertilization and cultivation demonstrations, and six tobacco-enterprise-record demonstrations. Demonstrations are also planned in cotton, the secondary money crop, and sweetpotatoes, which seem to offer a good opportunity for an individual cash crop for the community. The live-at-home program will be promoted with demonstrations in growing corn, hogs, and poultry, and in dairy pastures and gardening.

Each of these farm and home demonstrations is planned to obtain the facts about different crops or farm and home practices on certain size, type, and tenure of farm. The analysis of this information will contribute to the available data on what income can be expected on definite types of farms and what comforts in home equipment, such as electric lights or water systems, can be supported.

Members of Homewood community pledged themselves to support club work and also, in order to improve the management of the farm business, to keep one joint farm cost-account record, made by both the farmer and his wife.

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The next day was spent in Beltsville touring the greenhouses, laboratories, and experimental plots and hearing about the research work under way and the plans for the future. The time was limited, but the day had been well planned, and the party got a bird's-eye view of the work under way at the center.

On the way home the Mercer County folks expressed great satisfaction in the trip and voted to conduct a similar one each year. The comments of some of the farmers were interesting. One man claimed that the entire cost of the trip was well repaid by a 10-minute interview he had with Dr. George M. Darrow at the berry fields. As E. L. Cubberley, president of the Mercer County Board of Agriculture, stated: "It opened their eyes and gave them a picture of just what the Federal Department was doing for farmers. After this they would feel free to visit Washington and make use of the facilities of the Department of Agriculture more than they had in the past."—*A. C. McLean, County Agricultural Agent, Mercer County, N. J.*

# Agents Speed Aid in Flood Crisis

## Courage and Hard Work

WHAT does the home demonstration agent do when her county is hit by disaster? Reports from inundated counties up and down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers tell of planning and preparing food for refugees, taking care of the sick, and keeping down panic, and they give dramatic accounts of heroic efforts to relieve suffering. The following excerpts from a letter written by Bertha Cochran Hahn, home demonstration agent in Clark County, Ind., just across the river from Louisville, Ky., tell something of her experiences during the recent flood:

"As soon as a skeleton plan of organization could be started by the few people working behind the line of water, a new area had to be evacuated and new hundreds taken care of. There simply wasn't time, those first days, to get farther than bringing people in to dry out and trying to provide two warm meals a day.

"The metal shop in the quadrangle had live steam from the army depot's own plant, so the army buildings continued to have heat and light after the city's supply failed. They also had their own water plant. Army field kitchens were set up in the metal plant, and C. C. C. cooks from Henryville came in to operate them for us. Long trestle tables were set up and three-legged stools used so that a group of about 200 could file through, picking up steam-sterilized metal army kits and receiving hot coffee or milk, a stew of mixed canned vegetables and a suggestion of meat, and a slice or two of fresh bread.

"For the hospital cases and little children we had potato soup and vegetable stew, and finally we had some medical supplies and doctors. We were unable to get nurses, and women refugees were pressed into service. For a while we had no medical supplies, and then things looked serious; but soon we had help from everywhere, and there was very little illness.

"When, on Sunday, the water began to come up to the depot, the officers saw that maps of expected water levels would have to include even that territory. Refugees could believe it without being told because the water was within a couple of blocks on three sides. There weren't enough extra people in charge to keep down a panic, and, before it was possible to arrange for the first train to

take out refugees, we almost had one. You can't blame them. Some had moved out of their homes to stay with friends, moved with those friends to some other refuge, and again and again until finally nothing was left but the depot, and then water was surrounding that.

"The last of them went out at midnight on the third train, and I went to bed on the third floor of the main building. I was too tired to sleep but did. When I was weighed later I found that I had lost 7 pounds.

"The next morning I was sent out by boat to Port Fulton where a few blocks of houses were out of water. Quickly to have some form of authority, a mayor was selected and other officers, such as chief of police. I served in the health division. Crammed in this little section (we took a census) were 5,600 people."

## All in the Day's Work

County Agent John F. Hull, in one of the worst flooded areas of Evansville, Ind., suffering from nervous exhaustion after 11 continuous days and nights of ceaseless effort in trying to rescue the farm people of the county, takes time to write of the achievements of his assistant and of the home demonstration agent because he feels that other agents will take great pride in them.

"On the 20th of January, it was determined that evacuation of the people already cut off in Union Township was necessary. H. B. Fulford, assistant county agent, was assigned the task of carrying on the front-line activities.

"The unreasonable and wild clamor for boats made it imperative that we should have an official representative right on the job to keep boats and barges on their assignments and to keep them from wasting time running up and down the river responding to individual calls for help. The weather conditions were terrible. Heavy rains, heavy snow, freezing weather, dense fogs, and later floating houses and barns, all contributed to make this work very hazardous.

"There was no one else who knew the local conditions so well and had the personality and the capability to meet the ever-increasing demand for boats from other areas. It was absolutely necessary to keep Mr. Fulford constantly on the job and in that position. We did, however, manage to get him two nights of shore leave between January 21 and January 29. When this difficult work was prac-

tically finished on January 29 at about 8 o'clock, Mr. Fulford collapsed, but after a few days' rest came back again in fine shape.

"If you had seen those boats and barges all covered with ice like something that had come from the Arctic Circle; if you had seen the size of speed boats we were forced to use as scout craft ahead of the barges, you could begin to appreciate the kind of mettle which made it possible for our assistant county agent to give such distinguished service.

"Marjorie McCutchan, the home demonstration agent, stayed with us right straight through and gave all that she had to give."

## Food Rushed to Flood Area

County agents in New York State felt very keenly the plight of those in the flooded counties. On Thursday, January 28, a plea for food for flood sufferers went out to all county agents from Director L. R. Simons. Two days later meetings were held in 50 counties, outlining plans for sending carloads of food westward. One week later, 69 carloads of food had started on their way to the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys with 7 or 8 carloads yet to be loaded, reports Earl A. Flansburgh, county agent leader, in charge of this work.

The assembling and loading were in the hands of a committee appointed by the county agent and representing various farm organizations in the county. All farm organizations cooperated, and the response from farmers and their wives was speedy and generous. The first car to get under way was loaded with onions from Oswego County. Potatoes, carrots, cabbages, and canned foods were among the food products sent. One carload was valued at \$3,000, at local market prices.

Some counties that grew few vegetables decided to help in other ways. From Delaware County comes a report that at a meeting of farm people each pledged the cash equivalent of a can of milk. At the shipping station the producer may sign a card authorizing the milk company or cooperative to withdraw the price of a can of milk to give to the Red Cross.

The extension office force in Chautauqua County worked Sunday afternoon getting out 2,000 letters to farm and home bureaus, 4-H club members, grange

masters and secretaries, dairymen's league officers, farm bureau committeemen, home bureau chairmen, agricultural teachers, and others. They designated February 3 as assembly day and obtained county highway department trucks to pick up the goods.

More than 700 local leaders and representatives of farm organizations meeting in Steuben County selected 22 concentration points, assembled the food Wednesday to Friday, and shipped it Friday afternoon.

It was a busy week for extension forces, but they are proud of the way the rural people in New York came to the aid of their fellow citizens in the Ohio and Mississippi Valleys, assembling, loading, and shipping 69 carloads of food produce in 1 week.

### Flood Corn Salvaged

In Mississippi County, Mo., farms in the spillway, an area of 130,000 acres, had to be abandoned. County Agent R. Q. Brown discovered that a large quantity of corn had been left in cribs, and after investigation estimated that more than 200,000 bushels of corn was submerged by the flood waters.

The best information available indicated that this corn probably could not be shelled and handled in the ordinary elevator machinery after being under water. It seemed best to arrange for the transfer of this corn to hill counties where it could be fed at once to livestock as soon as it could be removed.

Having decided upon a course of action, Mr. Brown communicated with county agents in upland counties, and an outlet for corn, which was so badly water-soaked that it could not be salvaged in any other manner, was established.

Mr. Brown was not entirely satisfied with the plan, so had a bargeload of submerged corn recovered from the cribs while the farms were still flooded and transported to the elevator of the Scott County Milling Co. at Sikeston. Though this corn had been under water 2 or 3 days, it handled readily through the shellers and dryers and was accepted at market price by the milling company.

### Fig Trees

More than 100 farm families in Union County, Ark., have planted one or more fig trees this year as a result of a fig-tree-planting campaign sponsored by the home demonstration council, says Myrtle Watson, home demonstration agent.

## A Plan for Extending Power Lines

### Finds Rural Louisiana Citizens

## Eager for Electricity

G. C. SMITH  
County Agricultural Agent  
Grant Parish, Louisiana

RURAL electrification for Grant Parish, La., was started during the month of May 1936, just after the Rural Electrification Act became a law. A circular letter setting forth the nature of the law and the conditions by which rural people could avail themselves of this opportunity to obtain electricity by Federal aid was the first step. It looked then as if a lapse of a year or two might be necessary to allow a plan like this to mature in the minds of the farm people of Grant Parish, La., but there was a quick response by leading citizens, urging that this enterprise be pushed with all vigor and speed.

Meetings were called immediately in various communities to discuss the matter, and an organization was set up to contact farmers and get signatures on applications for electricity whenever it could be supplied at reasonable rates. After 400 signatures had been obtained throughout the parish, a committee of 24 leading citizens of Grant Parish interviewed our United States Senator John H. Overton, and requested his aid and advice. Senator Overton seemed to be greatly impressed by the interest of the people of Grant Parish in this matter and helped them to get in touch with the Rural Electrification Administration at Washington.

On November 9, C. O. Falkenwald, of the Rural Electrification Administration, came into our office at Colfax and looked over the maps and applications. He said that the project had been well prepared and that it was ready to be submitted for approval. However, it was decided to hold the project a few more weeks so that Mr. Falkenwald could line up surrounding parishes, combining them into a larger unit with greater economy and efficiency.

In one day county agents in surrounding parishes were contacted and meetings were called the following week to appoint committees and to obtain signers for similar projects in the parishes of Rapides, Natchitoches, Winn, and La Salle. These meetings were held according to schedule, and projects were developed and submitted.

It was thought advisable by the committee that a mass meeting should be held to obtain, if possible, additional signers

for the project. A committee went before the parish school board and suggested that a half holiday for all schools throughout Grant Parish be called on the day of the meeting. The school board readily consented to do this, as it was not hard to show the members of the board that this was a movement of great moment to the parish and one in which all people and organizations should join and support. Businessmen of Colfax raised \$40 to pay for the gasoline for school busses and other expenses incident to holding the meeting. So interested was everybody in the success of this venture that the committee which raised the money for this expense did not meet with a single person who did not contribute liberally when asked to do so.

Our project was completed with 200 additional signers as a result of this meeting. So eager are the citizens for the success of this movement that farmers at this time are writing letters to the Washington office in their own handwriting, asking that this project be speedily approved and completed. The rural people of Grant Parish have every reason to believe that the stringing of high-tension lines will be started early next spring. It will mark a new life and a new era for rural people of Louisiana, and for Grant Parish in particular.

### New REA Film Strips

The Rural Electrification Administration has three film strips available for distribution: REA 2, "Electric Power Serves the Farm", which shows some of the important uses of labor-saving and income-producing electrical farm equipment; REA 3, "A Visit to Rosedale", which takes its audience on a sightseeing tour of the REA electrified farm near Washington, D. C., and REA 4, "How to Develop an REA Project."

These three film strips, with prepared lectures, may be ordered direct from L. E. Davidson Picture Service, 438 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y. The price, including postage, is 55 cents each.

## 4-H Broadcasts

A series of talks by former 4-H club members is a feature of the regular Saturday afternoon WBZ (Boston, Mass.) 4-H radio program. The series is called "4-H Personalities" and has included a talk by a missionary to India, a home economics teacher, a former extension worker who is now a homemaker, a county club agent, and a young business man who is about to take charge of a manufacturing plant in England. Each told of his work and what the training in 4-H club work had contributed to his success.

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## Circular-Letter Exchange

Indiana agents send several copies of their circular letters in to the State office. Once each month H. S. Heckard, assistant county agent leader, sends these out in packets, circulating them to the agents who have contributed to the exchange. Six packages of letters have gone out, and the agents are finding many good ideas for forceful-effective circular letters among those sent out by their fellow agents.

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## Lime

County agents' annual reports in Kentucky for 1936 show that 32,002 men in 117 counties used 786,206 tons of ground limestone on their land, and 34,891 farmers used 869,218 tons of all-lime materials including marl and burned lime.

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## Ton Litters

During the past 13 years, 785 ton litters have been produced in 57 counties of Pennsylvania. Twenty-six ton litters were grown this year. York County leads with 62 for the 13 years.

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## Census Facts

According to figures released by the Bureau of the Census, the number of acres used for the production of home food and feed supplies increased in importance during the period 1929 to 1934.

Although the number of acres in crops harvested was reduced from 362,000,000

in 1929 to 298,600,000 in 1934, the acreage taken from cash crops was still further decreased by the greater number of acres supplying farm food and feed. Legumes also showed a marked increase during the 5-year period, taking up almost 6,000,000 acres released from cash crops. Soybeans showed the greatest increase.

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## Whole Farm Demonstrations

Definitely planned 5-year demonstrations on a farm scale, making the most complete use possible of legumes, have been organized in 29 counties in Alabama. These farms are representative as to soil type, system of farming, and size.

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## Farmers on the Move

More than one of every six farmer operators in the United States had operated the farms on which they lived less than 1 year, according to the census data compiled January 1, 1935. Fifteen percent of the farm owners had been operating their farms 10 to 14 years, and 44 percent of the owners reported operating the same farm 15 years or more. Fifty percent or more of the farm owners in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin have operated their farms for more than 15 years.

## One-Variety Income

The 13,330 farmers who are members of Georgia's 133 one-variety cotton community organizations received, during 1936, \$1,500,000, or 20 percent, more for their cotton than did those farmers growing individually selected varieties. They received approximately 1 cent more per pound for the longer staple varieties grown in the one-variety communities. In addition, there was a marked increase in the number of pounds of cotton produced per acre by members.

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## 4-H Income

From the gross income of \$306,081, members of 4-H clubs in California derived a net profit of \$108,367, according to reports from the 11,322 club members in the State. Approximately 50 percent of the members are girls. Summer camps attracted 4,221 boys and girls when 45 such camps were held in 37 counties.

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## Work Stock

Through the efforts of Webb Tatum, county agricultural agent, the 4-H club boys in Elbert County, Ga., ordered a carload of 24 brood mares from South Dakota. The boys will raise the colts as a club project, using them for work stock. They have 3 years in which to pay for the mares.

## AMONG OURSELVES

FRANCIS R. WILCOX, extension marketing specialist of the University of California and former associate director, has been appointed Director of the Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements of the A. A. A. Mr. Wilcox has been engaged in cooperative-marketing activities and in marketing extension work for the University of California during most of the time since he was graduated from Utah State University in 1925. For 2 years he continued his studies at the University of California. He was appointed associate director of the A. A. A. Division of Marketing and Marketing Agreements in November 1935. After a year's service he returned last fall to the University of California as extension marketing specialist.

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TWO FORMER extension specialists have been appointed as poultry husbandmen in the Bureau of Animal Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. J. E. Humphrey has been engaged in poultry educational work in Kentucky for the past 12 years. Melvin W. Buster was formerly with the Extension Service in California. Both men will assist with the development of the national poultry-improvement plan.

# they say today ...

## A CALL FOR ACTION

We are accustomed to think of our farm population as the stable backbone of our Nation. But while we have been indulging in romantic thinking about the beauties of a farm background, the actual picture of our farm life has acquired some grimly unpleasant aspects. The rural civilization, which we imagined existed, has been undermined by waste and mismanagement. \* \* \*

As we look back, we see that, instead of a growing community of farm owner-operators, we have produced a growing community of tenants. Today less than half of our farmers own all the land they operate. Almost 42 percent of our farmers own no land at all. \* \* \*

The problem of increased security of farm tenure and better land use is national. But because the problem is national does not mean that it is not also a matter for local and State concern. If the program is to succeed, it will require the closest cooperation between the States and the Federal Government. \* \* \*

We cannot hope for a stable civilization in town or country unless by cooperative action the problems of the submerged element in our rural population are solved. The goal is threefold—security, conservation, and higher living standards. It is a goal that is worthy of our united efforts.—*Secretary Wallace at the third general assembly of the Council of State Governments, Washington, D. C., January 23, 1937.*

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## ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF RECREATION

In passing, let me offer my opinion that the broad social significance of the impact of technology on agriculture and old-line industry must increasingly find its expression in recreation. New England, home of the Puritans, now finds that recreation has passed beyond cotton textiles as her leading industry. California does not need to be told the economic significance of recreation to her. Because recreation will be continually expanding and because many of its finest aspects can only be realized in connection with the land on which farmers live, it is

important that organized farmers recognize the significance of recreation, not only as a source of demand for farm products but also as something which they themselves can increasingly enjoy.—*Secretary Wallace, at the American Farm Bureau Federation, Pasadena, Calif., December 9, 1936.*

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## HOPE OF THE FUTURE

The message I wish the extension workers could carry to the boys and girls in the country is that the prospect for becoming rich through farming is not bright but the opportunity to serve their Nation and civilization is greater than it has ever been. Their opportunity is to inspire the hosts of young people on the farms and in the villages with an old yet very new ideal and lead them toward a more substantial civilization. This ideal, which I believe is the foundation of our civilization, is that of the integrity and continuity of the family. A civilization which does not provide for the reproduction of the race will fade away.—*O. E. Baker, senior agricultural economist, U. S. D. A., at the annual extension conference, Fort Collins, Colo., February 2, 1937.*

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## INDUSTRIAL USES FOR FARM PRODUCTS

Summing up, it is clear when viewed realistically, the effort to develop new industrial outlets for farm products is not the panacea that is claimed. It is one legitimate line of endeavor in behalf of agriculture and presents opportunities of which the most should be made \* \* \*.

Of course we need all the help that science and industry can give in providing new outlets for farm products, too. But there is no justification for telling farmers that this one thing alone is a panacea that will make the other vital measures unnecessary. That, I hope, agriculture will not believe.—*Alfred D. Stedman, Assistant Administrator of A. A. A., at the plant-prosper meeting of farmers at Memphis, Tenn., December 16, 1936.*

## A BOOST TOWARD THE GOAL

I do not believe we need to think of the agricultural conservation program as something separate and apart from the extension program, or going toward different objectives, nor even as going toward the same objective in a different way. I think we can take the agricultural conservation program as a boost toward the extension program goals.—*D. C. Mooring, horticulture specialist, Oklahoma, at the Southern States regional extension conference at Houston, Tex., November 11, 1936.*

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## REDEDICATION TO SERVICE

Those of us who are looking for a return to earlier forms of extension probably will never see those days again. We have moved on and are doing things in a larger and more aggressive way, and will continue to do so. Our original objectives, however—efficiency in agriculture, increased net income, the making of satisfying homes, the development of men and women, abundant living—all are likely to remain our objectives for a long time to come.—*C. B. Smith, Assistant Director, Extension Service, U. S. D. A.*

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## AS OTHERS SEE US

In its Extension Service the Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with State colleges, does a fine constructive job among young people. The 4-H clubs have done more than any one thing to improve living conditions of a social and cultural nature tending to make country life more satisfying than any other single effort. \* \* \* The Department of Agriculture's services to rural young people are so numerous and so valuable that we can only pay them tribute here and pass on.—*Marine Davis in The Lost Generation: A Portrait of American Youth Today, published by the Macmillan Co., 1936.*

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